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COUNTRY Nicaragua

SUBJECT Nicaraguan Labor Activities During Month of July
25X1A

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1. Activities of the Partido Socialista de Nicaragua (PSN) in the labor field during July were directed principally toward avoiding a split between the orthodox Party members and those making up the nationalist or Somocista group. The latter are distinct from the Federacion Nacionalista, which is actively anti-Communist and anti-PSN. PSN efforts to persuade Absalon Gonzalez to reconsider his resignation as Secretary General of the Confederacion General del Trabajo (CGT) reached a point early in July when the PSN leaders offered the Somocista faction a majority of the members of the Executive Committee. Gonzalez refused to consider the proposition.

2. The CGT and the Federacion Nacionalista received invitations to attend a reception at the Argentine Embassy on the morning of 9 July. Fearing that Gonzalez and the other Somocistas would not attend, the PSN leaders delegated certain members to call at the houses of these persons in the morning of the reception day and accompany them to the Embassy. In this manner Gonzalez arrived in the company of Domingo Vargas and Francisco Bravo, while Humberto Gabuardi came with Hector Zelaya, and Matilde Barreto accompanied Roberto Gonzalez. Manuel Centeno Rizo refused to attend. Source states that the PSN adherents were outnumbered by the opposing group, and that most of the officers of PSN-dominated syndicates did not appear. Speeches were made by Absalon Gonzalez, Roberto Gonzalez, Carlos Adan Espinoza, and Jorge Hector Lupo, Argentine Labor Attaché. Gabuardi had told Lupo that Gonzalez and his faction wished to withdraw from the CGT because of the persistent attacks of the Federacion Nacionalista, and that a split in the CGT would be unfortunate. Lupo thereupon took the bait, and in his speech he stated that the unity of Nicaraguan labor is essential.

3. On 18 July Lupo visited a meeting of the Sindicato de Trabajadores Graficos in the Casa del Obrero, and was subjected to several attacks on Peron and his regime. Ramiro Guerrero, head of the PSN faction in this syndicate, stated that Peron had some points in his favor, but that basically he was an oligarch who sought power at the cost of small concessions to the laboring class. Lupo replied that he would discuss this matter soon at a meeting at his home, and retired hurriedly.

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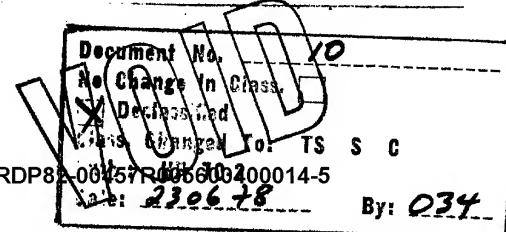
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4. Source stated that Ramon Zuniga Perez and Arnoldo Silva have been unusually active of late, and it is believed that they are in the pay of the Argentine Labor Attaché. On 23 July both went to Leon to attend a meeting of the Federacion de Trabajadores there. 25X1X

5.

6. PSN leaders met at the house of Perez Estrada on 13 July, and discussed the proposed CGT congress. The theme will probably be Unidad Syndical, and it was agreed that the Nationalists should be invited also, in an effort to form a united labor front. Gonzalez has indicated that he might remain an officer if the Federacion Nacionalista is brought into the CGT.

7. In a meeting on 18 July the Nacionalistas decided to make the weekly Tribuna del Pueblo their official organ. Carlos Ocampos is the director of the paper, while Ramon Zuniga Perez was named assistant director and Carlos Adan Espinoza head of the reporters. They plan to sell 500 copies in Managua, and about 250 in other sections of the country. Source states that the CGT is planning to publish Voz Sindical again, and that the Sindicato de Zapateros is collecting funds for this purpose.

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